## **RESOLUTION #2022-05**

## SUPPORTING DESIGNATION OF U.S. 412, FROM I-49 IN SPRINGDALE, ARKANSAS TO THE OKLAHOMA STATE LINE, AS AN ALTERNATIVE FUEL CORRIDOR (AFC)

**WHEREAS,** on February 10, 2022, the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) issued a 2022/Round 6 Request for Nominations for State and local officials to nominate Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFC) for designation; and

**WHEREAS,** the AFC designation is tied to funding provisions under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), which establishes the <u>National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program</u> and a Discretionary Grant Program for Charging and Fueling Infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS,** U.S. 412, a designated <u>critical freight corridor</u> (Tier 2), connects I-35, I-44, and I-49, facilitating the movement of freight, improving connectivity to national airports and inland ports, and enhancing economic development opportunities, thereby providing connection between cities, States, and regions to contribute toward a national network of alternative fuel corridors; and

**WHEREAS,** in Oklahoma, U.S. 412 is currently designated as an AFC, "<u>corridor-pending</u>," leaving a 22-mile gap in the designation of U.S. 412 from the Oklahoma State line to I-49 in Springdale, Arkansas; and

**WHEREAS,** under the BIL, U.S. 412 was designated as a <u>Future Interstate</u> on the National Highway System (NHS) from I-35 in Noble County, Oklahoma to I-49 in Springdale, Arkansas; and

**WHEREAS,** I-49 is currently designated as an AFC EV "corridor-pending" in Arkansas and Missouri, and the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission has requested USDOT to reflect the completion of I-49 between Missouri and Arkansas (Missouri-Arkansas Connector) on the official <u>USDOT AFC map</u>.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

That the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission supports the designation of U.S. 412, from I-49 in Springdale, Arkansas to the Oklahoma state line, as an Alternative Fuel Corridor (AFC) for Electric Vehicles and respectfully requests the Arkansas Department of Transportation and the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment to nominate U.S. 412 as a Designated Alternative Fuel Corridor (AFC). Additionally, NWARPC respectfully requests the designated I-49 AFC route be updated to reflect the completed alignment and connectivity of I-49 between Missouri and Arkansas.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS	DAY OF	, 2022
		Mayor Chris Keeney, Chairman
ATTEST:		